

Application No. 10/613,773  
Amendments Dated October 21, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of July 18, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Original) A system for the protection of cargo comprising:

a tracking device to be inserted in a cargo; said tracking device including a communication module and a dead reckoning module; said communication module being configured to communicate with a central server; and

an access point including a GPS receiver and a communication module configured to communicate with said tracking device communication module; said access point being so configured as to periodically supply GPS position data to said tracking device;

wherein said tracking device is so configured that when the communication between the tracking module and the access point is lost, a last received GPS position data and dead reckoning data from said dead reckoning module are transmitted by the tracking module to the central server via said communication module of the tracking device.

2. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 1, wherein said communication module of said tracking device includes a wireless LAN transceiver.

3. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 2, wherein said communication module of said access point includes a wireless LAN transceiver configured to communicate with said wireless LAN transceiver of said tracking device; the GPS position data being transmitted from said access point to said tracking device via said respective wireless LAN transceivers.

4. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 1, wherein said communication module of said tracking device includes a cellular transceiver enabling the tracking device to communicate with the central server.

Application No. 10/613,773  
Amendments Dated October 21, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of July 18, 2005

5. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 1, wherein said communication module of said access point includes a cellular transceiver enabling the tracking device to communicate with the central server.

6. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 1, wherein said tracking device includes a controller interconnecting said communication module and said dead reckoning module.

7. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 6, wherein said controller includes memory to temporarily store dead reckoning data supplied by said dead reckoning module.

8. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 1, wherein said access point includes a controller interconnecting said GPS receiver and said communication module.

9. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 8, wherein said controller of said access point includes memory to temporarily store GPS position data supplied by said GPS receiver.

10. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 1, wherein said dead reckoning module of said tracking device includes at least one dead reckoning sensor selected from the group consisting of an accelerometer, a gyroscope, a magnetometer, an electrolytic tilt sensor and an electronic compass.

11. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 10, wherein said accelerometer, gyroscope, electrolytic tilt sensor and electronic compass are 3D devices.

12. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 10, wherein said dead reckoning module further includes a thermistor.

13. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 1, wherein said tracking device further includes a high frequency sound generator.

Application No. 10/613,773  
Amendments Dated October 21, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of July 18, 2005

14. (Currently amended) The cargo protection system of claim 1, wherein said access point is [[so]] mounted to a trailer so that the range of the communication module of the access point a virtual fence is generates a virtual fence & around the trailer by the range of the communication module of the access point.

15. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 1, further including a hand-held communication device that is periodically in communication with the central server.

16. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 15, wherein, when the communication between the tracking module and the access point is lost, the notified central server communicates with said hand-held communication device to determine if a false alarm exists.

17. (Original) The cargo protection system of claim 15, wherein said hand-held communication device is used to authenticate a user and allow system operations to be performed.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

Application No. 10/613,773  
Amendments Dated October 21, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of July 18, 2005

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Original) A system for the protection of cargo comprising:

cargo tracking means including communication means and dead reckoning means;  
said communication means being configured to communicate with a central server; and

means for creating a virtual fence around the cargo; said virtual fence creating means including means for receiving GPS position data and communication means configured to communicate with said communication means of said cargo tracking means; said virtual fence creating means being so configured as to periodically supply GPS position data to said cargo tracking means;

wherein when the communication between the cargo tracking means and the virtual fence creating means is lost, a last received GPS position data and dead reckoning data from said dead reckoning means are transmitted to the central server via said cargo tracking means communication means.

36. (Currently amended) A method for the protection of cargo comprising the acts of:

providing a cargo tracking device to a cargo; the cargo tracking device including a communication module and a dead reckoning module;

creating a virtual fence around an area where the cargo is located around the cargo;

Application No. 10/613,773  
Amendments Dated October 21, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of July 18, 2005

providing GPS position data to the cargo tracking device while the cargo is within the virtual fence;

when the cargo exits the virtual fence:

obtaining dead reckoning data from the dead reckoning module;

transmitting a last received GPS position data to a central server via the communication module of the cargo tracking device; and

transmitting dead reckoning data to a central server via the communication module of the cargo tracking device.

37. (Original) The cargo protection method of claim 36, wherein said virtual fence creating act includes providing an access point having a communication module having a communication range defining a virtual fence.

38. (Original) The cargo protection method of claim 36, wherein said virtual fence creating act includes providing at least two access points having respective communication modules having respective communication ranges; said virtual fence being defined by the outer limit of overlapping ranges of the communication modules.

39. (Original) The cargo protection method of claim 36, further comprising the analysis by the central sever of the last received GPS position data and the dead reckoning data to determine the current position of the cargo.

40. (Original) The cargo protection method of claim 36, wherein said last received GPS position data transmission act includes establishing a cellular communication between the tracking device and the central server.

41. (Original) The cargo protection method of claim 36, wherein said dead reckoning data transmission act includes establishing a cellular communication between the tracking device and the central server.

Application No. 10/613,773  
Amendments Dated October 21, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of July 18, 2005

42. (Original) The cargo protection method of claim 36 further comprising the act of transmitting an alarm from the tracking device to the central server when the cargo tracking device exits the virtual fence.